

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**for the**  
**OVW FY 2015, Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and**  
**Enforcement of Protection Orders Program**

Among the following governmental agencies:

- New York City Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence;
- Office of the District Attorney, Kings County (Brooklyn);
- New York City Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice;
- New York City Police Department;
- New York City Department of Probation; and
- New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision.

Among the following nonprofit, nongovernmental victim services organizations:

- Black Women's Blueprint;
- Good Shepherd Services Safe Homes Project; and
- Safe Horizon, Inc.

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) affirms the mutual support that each agency or organization will provide in the continuation of the Early Victim Engagement Project (EVE Project) at the New York City Family Justice Center, Brooklyn, New York, a project to be funded under the Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program of the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) within the United States Department of Justice. The continuation of the EVE Project will be implemented by the New York City Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence (OCDV), the King's County District Attorney's Office (KCDAO), Black Women's Blueprint, Good Shepherd Services Safe Homes Project (Safe Homes), and Safe Horizon, Inc., in collaboration with the New York City Police Department (NYPD), New York City Department of Probation (Probation) and New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS). It will build upon the success of the current Family Justice Center model of multi-disciplinary service delivery and the extensive history of collaboration among the MOU signatory agencies.

The EVE Project will also continue to reach out to victims before and after an abusive partner has been arraigned to provide them with critical information on the outcome of the arraignment. The continuation funding would support this ongoing work as well as introduce substantial enhancements. The EVE Project will now provide additional services to three traditionally underserved groups: 1) victims of intimate partner violence in the 67, 83 and 75 precincts where there is a complaint for a domestic violence incident and there has not yet been an arrest of the perpetrator (an "open 61"), 2:) victims who are at a high risk of escalation, serious physical injury or fatality; and 3) immigrant victims who are in need of culturally specific services and may be eligible for a U nonimmigrant status (U visa).

The lead partner, OCDV, and all of the partner agencies described below have the expertise, experience, and commitment to ensure the continued success of the EVE Project. If this application for OVW funding is denied, it is fully understood that all agencies and organizations that sign this MOU are in *no way* obligated to provide the resources or services described in this document.

**Brief History of the Collaboration, Roles and Responsibilities of Identified Partners**

The EVE Project will be implemented by OCDV with KCDAO as the lead partner. The partnership between these two agencies has developed through the collaboration they formed to create New York City's first BKFJC, located in Brooklyn (BKFJC), which opened in 2005. The BKFJC, which was the first Center in the country to open under the OVW President's Family Justice Center Initiative, is located on an entire floor of an office building in downtown Brooklyn which also houses KCDAO and other City agencies. Partner agencies collaborate while maintaining their victim confidentiality requirements. The criminal justice section of the BKFJC includes the entire Domestic Violence and Elder Abuse Bureaus of KCDAO (including prosecutors, government victim advocates and administrative support staff) and two NYPD Domestic Violence Prevention Officers. The civil side of the BKFJC consists of over 20 community based agencies which provide case management and nonprofit victim advocacy, the New York City Human Resources Administration which offers social services and economic assistance, six civil legal services organizations which offer assistance with family, matrimonial and immigration issues, and the BKFJC Self-Sufficiency Program. Cross-disciplinary training and substantial volunteer projects, such as assistance in the Children's Room, enhance the work of the Center partners.

OCDV and KCDAO were the primary partners on the Department of Justice President's Family Justice Center Initiative grant (#2004-WE-AX-K017) which resulted in the opening of the New York City Family Justice Center in Brooklyn in July 2005. Of the MOU partners in the current application, OCDV, KCDAO, MOCJ, Probation, NYPD, and Safe Horizon, a nonprofit victim services organization, were among the original partners at the creation of the BKFJC. The other MOU partners in the current application are Safe Homes Project and Black Women's Blueprint. Safe Homes Project, a nonprofit victim advocacy organization which specializes in working with Latina and LGBTQI-identified clients, was originally an off-site partner of the BKFJC and became an on-site BKFJC partner in January 2007. Black Women's Blueprint, the newest service provider at the BKFJC, will come on-site in March 2015. Black Women's Blueprint is a civil and human rights organization providing culturally specific resources to domestic violence survivors in the greater-Brooklyn Caribbean community. All of the above MOU partners, except Safe Homes and Black Women's Blueprint, participated in the initial implementation of the EVE Project and were the original partners on the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women's Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders awarded in Fiscal Year 2007 (#2007-WE-AX-0024). With the exception of DOCCS and Black Women's Blueprint, all of the partners to this MOU were part of the Community-Defined Solutions to Violence Against Women continuation funding that was awarded in Fiscal Year 2010 (#2007-WE-AX-0024). This grant application seeks to continue the existing program and extend the monitoring of criminal cases, enhance risk assessment work with victims whose partner poses a high risk to them, enhance work with domestic violence victims where a perpetrator has not yet

been arrested in the 67, 83 and 75 precincts and with immigrant victims, focusing on the Latino and Caribbean communities.

### **Governmental Agencies**

#### **New York City Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence**

In November 2001, New York City voters approved an amendment to the City Charter to convert the Commission to Combat Family Violence (established by Executive Order in 1994) into a permanent office of City government, headed by a Commissioner. In January 2014, Mayor Bill de Blasio appointed Rosemonde Pierre-Louis as the Commissioner of the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence (OCDV). OCDV coordinates the domestic violence services of all City agencies and is responsible for developing mechanisms to ensure accountability. OCDV has a history of serving diverse groups of domestic violence victims, and working closely with healthcare providers, nonprofit and government victim advocates, legal service providers, and faith leaders.

OCDV has implemented a number of programs to help domestic violence victims access the services they need to find safety. In 2014, the office implemented several new programs including the Coordinated Approach to Preventing Stalking (CAPS) and the Queens Human Trafficking Intervention *Pro Bono* Project.

In 2014, OCDV also received city funding to provide targeted outreach and case management services to victims of intimate partner violence who reside in one of the 15 New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) developments that make up a large portion of NYCHA based crime. The program, called NYCHA DVRT (Domestic Violence Response Team), a part of the Mayor's Action Plan (MAP) for neighborhood safety, includes an outreach team and case manager for every borough, as well as a citywide high risk coordinator to provide rapid response to high-risk cases by facilitating interagency coordination and collaboration to effectively meet the service and safety needs of these clients.

Other examples of OCDV citywide activities include advocating successfully for changes in housing policies to make it easier for domestic violence victims to obtain public housing, awareness campaigns to encourage victims to seek assistance, a peer-led education program to prevent teen dating violence, and a Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee which reviews and analyzes homicide statistics to make recommendations to improve victim services. In 2014, OCDV distributed over 265,000 public education materials and conducted over 900 outreach events citywide.

The operations of the Brooklyn BKFJC are managed by OCDV through an Executive Director and other BKFJC administrative staff members. The objective of the BKFJC is to provide effective delivery of services to domestic violence victims in order to eliminate the barriers victims face when seeking services. At the BKFJC, essential advocacy, case management, and criminal and civil legal assistance to domestic violence victims are provided under one roof. The services are all provided by on-site partner agencies, including victim advocacy organizations, and City and State agencies. The services currently available at the BKFJC include: criminal prosecution; civil legal advice for immigration, divorce, and Family Court matters; police

services; counseling for children; assistance with emergency shelter, permanent housing, and public assistance applications; childcare; safety planning; crisis and long-term counseling; services for the elderly/disabled; emergency food, baby, and clothing supplies; language interpretation; and self-sufficiency services. Since opening on July 20, 2005, through February 27th, 2014 there have been 158,852 client visits to the BKFJC.

Because of the success of the Brooklyn FJC, the City committed to continuing its funding after the federal funding ended in 2006. In addition, the City committed to and currently funds FJCs in Queens (opened in 2008), the Bronx (opened in 2010) and Manhattan (opened 2014). A Staten Island FJC is planned to open in 2015.

**OCDV's Commitment, Responsibilities, and Resources Contributions**

OCDV will be responsible for providing and supervising the following staff:

- **The BKFJC Executive Director will:**
  - Ensure the success of the grant;
  - Supervise the work of the EVE Project Director, ensuring that the EVE Project is meeting all goals and objectives;
  - Consult with the EVE Project Director and Project participants; and
  - Report regularly to OCDV regarding Project outcomes.
  
- **The EVE Project Director will:**
  - Coordinate all EVE Project staff and partner agencies to effectively implement the goals of the grant and maintain collaborative and cooperative relationships;
  - Facilitate regular meetings and trainings with all EVE Project partner staff and provide administrative supervision to all frontline EVE Project staff in collaboration with their organization's managers/directors;
  - Create, review and evaluate all procedures, protocols and training curricula used by EVE Project staff and ensure there is transparent communication and adherence to confidentiality policies;
  - Using both the computerized KCDA database and spreadsheets, manage and analyze all data gathered by EVE Project staff;
  - Modify and create database and tracking forms, as needed;
  - Generate reports and maintain detailed information about the efforts made by all EVE Project staff;
  - Meet monthly with KCDAO's Victim Services Unit Director and Domestic Violence Bureau Chief to discuss Project coordination;
  - Meet biweekly with the nonprofit victims advocates' supervisors;
  - Implement the goals of the grant; and
  - Submit OVW Semi-Annual Reports in a timely manner.

OCDV will provide the following in-kind contributions:

- Program grant management and evaluation expertise of the OCDV Deputy Commissioner and Senior Advisor;
- Office space, telephones and service, computers with internet access, information technology services, security, and copier and fax machine access for all OCDV and

- nonprofit partner staff on-site at the BKFJC;
- Access for all BKFJC EVE clients to the full range of services available at the BKFJC including, but not limited to self-sufficiency services including English as a Second Language classes; job training; long-term counseling; case management; and key client documents in multiple languages; and
- All work of the BKFJC Executive Director on this Project.

### **Kings County District Attorney's Office**

KCDAO is charged with the duty to protect the public by investigating and prosecuting criminal conduct. KCDAO staff includes Assistant District Attorneys, Detective Investigators, government victim advocates, and support staff. KCDAO regularly trains law enforcement, medical professionals, educators, and BKFJC nonprofit and government partner staff on criminal justice issues. KCDAO government victim advocates are dually trained in both clinical social work and criminal justice advocacy, and provide support for victims and assistance with dispositions of criminal complaints consistent with the goals of ensuring victim safety and holding offenders accountable for their criminal conduct.

In 2012, KCDAO partnered with Safe Horizon, New York City Criminal Justice Agency (CJA), the Brooklyn Borough President's Office, the New York Police Department (NYPD) and New York Probation (DOP) to apply for and was awarded a Domestic Violence Homicide Prevention Demonstration Initiative (2013-HI-AX-K001). Recently, these partners were selected for phase two (2014-HI-AX-K004) and will be implementing the Domestic Violence High Risk Team model (DVHRT) within the 75<sup>th</sup> Precinct.

In 2003, KCDAO partnered with OCDV to submit an application for funding to create a Family Justice Center in Brooklyn through the OVW President's Family Justice Center Initiative. The entire staff of KCDAO's Domestic Violence Bureau and the Elder Abuse Bureau is physically located at the BKFJC. KCDAO prosecutes criminal domestic violence cases and works with the on-site BKFJC nonprofit and government victim advocates, civil attorneys, designated New York City Police Officers, New York City Probation Officers, and interfaith spiritual support caregivers.

Since 1990, KCDAO has developed numerous programs and fostered collaborations to protect domestic violence victims, including: the country's first specialized Domestic Violence Felony Court part; the state's first specialized Domestic Violence Misdemeanor Court parts and a Youthful Offender Court part; one of the first victim/witness programs within a District Attorney's Office in the nation; a unique Domestic Violence Court technology; and using digital 911 recording technology to enhance arraignment and prosecution. KCDAO also focuses projects assisting traditionally underserved populations in Brooklyn such as the LGBTQIQ community as well as victims who are persons with disabilities.

### **KCDAO Commitment, Responsibilities and Resource Contributions**

KCDAO will be responsible for providing and supervising the following EVE Project staff:

- **Two KCDAO Victim Liaisons, whom will be assigned to the Brooklyn Criminal Court arraignment parts.**

- Review all incoming domestic violence case files, pre- and post- arraignment, gather information about the defendant's post-arrest behavior and highlight the case information to the prosecutor staffing arraignments;
- Contact victims immediately following the arraignment to provide important safety information about the outcome of the arraignment, enroll the victim in the Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) system when appropriate, and schedule an intake appointment with the victim at the BKFJC if s/he is interested;
- Upon victim request, mail or email the order of protection to the victim;
- Alert the appropriate member of KCDAO's Victim Services Unit (VSU) after identifying a victim who is eligible for their specific language or disability services;
- Alert the appropriate member of KCDAO's Domestic Violence Bureau of scheduled appointments for 170.70 and 180.80 cases;
- Transfer the victim to the nonprofit victim advocate for intensive risk assessment and safety planning and linkage to the BKFJC;
- Via email, provide the offender's arrest information to designated Probation and DOCCS supervisors;
- Serve as a liaison to all BKFJC partner agency staff with respect to criminal case monitoring and to ensure optimal collaboration between community based and criminal justice partner staff members at the BKFJC;
- Use Language Line Services' telephonic interpretation and the New York Relay Service to communicate with victims in their appropriate language;
- Enter all work into KCDAO's EVE Project computerized database;
- Attend EVE staff meetings; and
- Compile accurate and comprehensive monthly data reports.

KCDAO will provide the following in-kind contributions:

- Fringe benefits for all KCDAO-funded staff under this grant;
- Office space, telephones and internet access, information technology support services, security, copier and fax machine access for all KCDAO staff; and
- Expertise of KCDAO leadership including the Chief of the Special Victims Division, the Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau, the Chief of the Elder Abuse Bureau, and the Director of the Victim Services Unit.

### **New York City Police Department**

The NYPD is the chief law enforcement agency for New York City. It is the largest municipal police department in the United States, covering the City's five boroughs: Manhattan, the Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island, or roughly 320 square miles. Over 35,000 uniformed officers of all ranks and approximately 15,000 civilians are employed by the NYPD. In 2014 alone, the NYPD filed 282,648 Domestic Incident Reports (including family related violence).

The NYPD has two Patrol Boroughs in Brooklyn, namely, Patrol Borough Brooklyn North and Patrol Borough Brooklyn South. Within those two commands, there are 23 Police Precincts and three Housing Police Services Areas for public housing complexes. Each Precinct and Police Service Area is proactive in prevention, investigation and enforcement efforts to reduce domestic

violence. All Domestic Violence Prevention Officers (DVPOs) and Investigators are trained as specialists in the field of domestic violence.

The NYPD has a Domestic Violence Unit in the Office of the Chief of Department. In addition to briefing the Police Commissioner, Chief of Department and other executive members of the NYPD on domestic violence issues, the Domestic Violence Unit acts as a liaison with the Mayor's Office, the New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, District Attorneys' Offices and nonprofit victim advocacy groups. The Domestic Violence Unit also develops and conducts training in conjunction with the Deputy Commissioner of Training. The Unit monitors domestic violence performance indicators in order to give precinct and borough commanders a measure of relative performance, as well as providing an indicator of the Department's performance as a whole. The NYPD has been committed to combating domestic violence and continues to develop innovative programs.

Each day in New York City, NYPD patrol officers respond to over 770 domestic violence incidents. Brooklyn has consistently had the highest volume of domestic violence crimes in the City. The NYPD was an original signatory to both the MOU to create the BKFJC in Brooklyn and the EVE Project MOU, and since July 2005, two full-time DVPOs have served on-site at the BKFJC in Brooklyn and at the other BKFJCs since their opening. In addition to working collaboratively with the on-site nonprofit victim advocacy staff and the government victim advocacy staff, the BKFJC DVPOs record criminal complaints and Domestic Incident Reports (DIRs), follow up with precincts on open cases, provide important NYPD information to victims and nonprofit and government victim advocates, and work with the precinct Police Officers and Detectives to assist in further investigations and arrests, if necessary.

The Domestic Violence Unit is responsible for the training of about 3,000 members of service (uniform and civilian). These sessions included: Promotional Training (Captain, Lieutenant and Sergeant), Probationary Police Officer Training, Precinct Level training, 911 Operator training, Civilian Supervisory and School Safety training. Additionally, the Domestic Violence Unit has trained employees of outside agencies and organizations. Among these agencies/organizations are the Department of Probation, Safe Horizon, Health and Hospitals Corporation, Administration for Child Services as well as civil advocates, social workers and attorneys assigned to the Family Justice Centers in Brooklyn, Queens and the Bronx.

### **New York City Police Department Commitment, Responsibilities and Resource Contributions**

The NYPD will continue to work collaboratively with partners at the BKFJC. The DVPOs at the 67<sup>th</sup>, 75<sup>th</sup> and 83<sup>rd</sup> Precincts will work collaboratively with the advocate at the BKFJC that is assigned to provide services to their residents. Those advocate assignments will be: 1) Safe Homes Project providing services to residents in the 83<sup>rd</sup> precinct which has a large Spanish speaking community, 2) Safe Horizon providing services to residents in the 75<sup>th</sup> precinct which upon recent analysis is the precinct with the highest number of DIRs in the City, and 3) Black Women's Blueprint providing services to residents in the 67<sup>th</sup> which has a large community of Caribbean decent. The NYPD will identify open 61s from domestic violence cases where follow up is needed and identify cases where there is a high risk for escalation, serious physical injury or fatality that need additional safety planning, risk assessment and case management.

As part of the EVE Project, the NYPD will provide the following activities in-kind:

- Identify domestic violence related open 61s with a felony charge in the three EVE Project-designated police precincts (67<sup>th</sup>, 75<sup>th</sup> and 83<sup>rd</sup>);
- Provide appropriate confidentiality agreements to the partner organizations for the release of victim information;
- Provide victim contact information from the DIRs to the nonprofit victim advocate assigned to liaise with their precinct;
- Meet and communicate regularly with their assigned victim advocate liaison to review DIRs; and
- Send a representative to EVE related coordination meetings, as needed.

### **New York City Department of Probation**

The Department of Probation protects the community by intervening in the lives of offenders and holding them accountable. In collaboration with the community and other criminal justice partners, Probation provides information and services to the courts, gives victims a voice in the justice system, and encourages probation clients to become law-abiding members of the community, with emphasis placed on the deterrence of future violent behavior. Probation provides direct supervision of probationers and monitors their attendance at programs such as drug treatment programs.

A designated liaison within Probation provides information and support to the BKFJC by obtaining detailed information regarding probation clients. The Probation liaison works with KCDAO to ascertain information regarding current probationers who are arrested and prosecuted for domestic violence offenses in order to coordinate any subsequent probation violation hearing and the prosecution of the underlying new criminal offense. With sufficient access to facts, probation violation hearings can result in the revocation of probation status and incarceration, often without victim/witness testimony. The Probation liaison may also provide current status information, as permitted by law, to domestic violence victims whose abusers may be on probation. By accessing the Probation computer system, the Probation liaison can connect the victim to the Probation Officer assigned to the offender. The Probation liaison can also contact the NYPD and refer a victim of domestic violence to the NYPD if the victim reports that the abuser committed new criminal conduct or the Probation Legal Department should the victim wish to report a violation of the probation client's technical conditions of probation that could prompt a probation violation proceeding.

### **New York City Department of Probation Commitment, Responsibilities and Resource Contributions**

As part of the EVE Project, the Department of Probation will provide the following activities in-kind:

- Supply the names and email addresses of designated Probation Supervisors to the EVE Project Director;
- Receive information from EVE Project staff which may be utilized by DOP to make decisions regarding the probation client and inform treatment of the probation client's case;

- Collaborate with KCDAO regarding how best to hold the probation client accountable on the domestic violence arrest;
- Arrange for trainings to be facilitated by the BKFJC Executive Director and EVE Project Director at various Probation offices; and
- Conduct professional development and training for EVE Project partners.

### **New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision**

The mission of the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision is to improve public safety by providing a continuity of appropriate treatment services in safe and secure facilities where offenders' needs are addressed and they are prepared for release, followed by supportive services under community supervision to facilitate a successful completion of their sentence. DOCCS makes a special effort to ensure that victims of crimes do not become forgotten parties in the criminal justice process. DOCCS has worked with the New York State Crime Victims Board and the DA's Office to help ensure that victims are aware of their rights with regard to the supervision process. Landmark legislation in 1994 allowed victims to meet face-to-face with a member of the Board of Parole, or to submit a written victim impact statement to the Board. Procedures have been established allowing the Board of Parole to maintain contact with victims and, at their request, keep them apprised of parole interview dates and decisions, and the release dates of the offenders who victimized them. Sentencing Reform Act of 1998, known as Jenna's Law, provided all citizens with an opportunity to call a toll-free number to receive information about inmates released to parole supervision after January 1, 1999. This toll-free service is currently a state contract with VINE (Victim Information Notification Everyday, 1-888-VINE-4-NY). All on-site partners at the BKFJC are trained on the use of VINE, and brochures and fliers are available for BKFJC clients.

### **New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision Responsibilities and Resource Contributions**

As part of the EVE Project, the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision will provide the following activities in-kind:

- Supply the names and email addresses of designated DOCCS Supervisors to the EVE Project Director;
- Receive email messages from EVE Project staff alerting DOCCS to a parolee's arrest for domestic violence and the details about the arrest, and consider that information along with other factors known to DOCCS to assist in case decision making ;
- Collaborate with KCDAO regarding options available to hold the parolee accountable on the domestic violence incident;
- Arrange for trainings to be facilitated by the BKFJC Executive Director and EVE Project Director at various DOCCS offices; and
- Assist in the conduct of professional development and training as mutually agreed to for EVE Project partners.

### **New York City Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice**

The Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice is the oversight authority for the Office of Justice Programs grants. MOCJ will serve as the project liaison with the Department of Justice, Office

on Violence Against Women, be responsible for meeting all reporting requirements, and monitor the project's implementation to ensure achievement of program objectives. MOCJ will act as the City contracting agency for and act as the fiscal agent for the project. These services will be provided in-kind.

### **Nonprofit, Nongovernmental Victim Advocacy Agencies**

#### **Safe Horizon**

Safe Horizon is a private, nonprofit organization that provides a broad scope of services to crime victims throughout New York City. The mission of Safe Horizon is to provide support, prevent violence, and promote justice for victims of crime and abuse, their families and communities. Safe Horizon operates extensive community and court-based service programs for domestic violence, sexual assault, rape, child abuse, and assault victims, as well as survivors of homicide. These programs include 24-hour hotlines, Community Programs, Domestic Violence Shelters and a Counseling Center. In addition, Safe Horizon staff members work at police precincts to conduct critical outreach and risk management to victims of domestic violence after the police have been called to their home. In Brooklyn, Safe Horizon manages Criminal and Family Court Programs which provide an array of services to victims of crime, including crisis intervention, safety assessment and risk management planning, and assistance in completing Office of Victim Services compensation applications. Safe Horizon's Reception Center, located in the Criminal Court, also serves as a secure and comfortable place where victims, witnesses and family members or friends may wait until they are called to appear in court. The majority of Safe Horizon's programming is directed toward domestic violence victims and therefore the organization was selected for this EVE Project, which focuses on domestic violence victims.

#### **Safe Horizon's Commitment, Responsibilities and Resource Contributions**

Safe Horizon will be responsible for providing and supervising the following staff under the EVE Project:

##### **One Non-Profit Victim Advocates assigned to cover the 75<sup>th</sup> precinct, whose duties will be to:**

- Work collaboratively with NYPD staff in the 75<sup>th</sup> precinct and at the BKFJC to obtain contact information for victims on felony open 61 reports and do outreach to the victim to gather new information, conduct a risk assessment and safety plan;
- Link victims to services at the BKFJC and other programs as needed;
- Collaborate with the KCDAO Domestic Violence Homicide Prevention Demonstration Initiative to identify high risk cases in the 75<sup>th</sup> precinct to bring them to the attention of the high risk team to evaluate and provide a coordinated response;
- Use Language Line Services or the New York Relay Service to communicate with victims in their appropriate language;
- Maintain victim confidentiality and effectively explain Safe Horizon's confidentiality policies to each victim;
- Provide the NYPD with executed confidentiality agreements for the disclosure of crime victim information;
- Attend EVE staff meetings;

- Compile accurate and comprehensive monthly data reports.

Safe Horizon will provide the following in-kind contributions:

- Supervision of the one grant-funded nonprofit victim advocates;
- Subject to availability, expertise of the Safe Horizon leadership including the Vice President of Criminal Justice Programs, the Senior Director of the Brooklyn Court Programs, Manager of the Safe Horizon Brooklyn Criminal Court Program; and
- Subject to availability, participation in professional development and training for BKFJC EVE partners.

### **Good Shepherd Services Safe Homes Project**

Safe Homes Project is a community based domestic violence program of Good Shepherd Services. Rooted in work that was begun by the Sisters of the Good Shepherd in New York City in 1857 and incorporated in 1947, Good Shepherd Services' earliest efforts were providing residential services for vulnerable young women who could not live at home. Good Shepherd Services is now a non-sectarian, social service and youth development agency which positively affects the lives of more than 18,000 children and families annually. Started in 1976 by Good Shepherd Services, Safe Homes Project has been assisting survivors of domestic violence and their children for the past 30 years with services that include counseling, safety planning, support groups, legal and other advocacy, and shelter. Safe Homes Project has bilingual staff and has conducted all services in Spanish and English from its inception.

Safe Homes Project works with diverse populations. Clients come from all ethnic and religious backgrounds with approximately 30% who are African American or Caribbean, 15% White, 5% a combination of Arabic, Asian, and other, and fully 50% Latino. Latina participants represent a broad range of countries and cultures. Safe Homes Project is recognized as a bicultural/bilingual program serving Spanish-speaking domestic violence victims. The large number of Latina participants also reflects the population in the areas in which Safe Homes Project is active, including the Brooklyn neighborhoods of Park Slope, Sunset Park, Bushwick, and Red Hook. Outreach is conducted in the form of workshops for parents at daycare centers and schools, through training sessions for providers, and at tables at health fairs and street fairs where brochures and hotline cards in Spanish are distributed.

Safe Homes Project caseworkers are currently located on-site at the BKFJC. Safe Homes Project has collaborated throughout the years with the NYPD in providing roll call training on their services available for domestic violence victims. Their staff participates on numerous committees together with other grant partners. Safe Homes Project was selected for the EVE Project because its programming is directed specifically toward domestic violence victims, with a particular expertise in working with Spanish speaking and other foreign born domestic violence victims.

### **Safe Homes' Commitment, Responsibilities, and Resources Contributions**

Safe Homes will be responsible for providing and supervising the following staff under the EVE Project:

**One Non-Profit Victim Advocates assigned to cover the 83<sup>rd</sup> precinct, whose duties will be to:**

- Work collaboratively with NYPD staff in the 83<sup>rd</sup> precinct and at the BKFJC to obtain contact information for victims on felony open 61 reports and do outreach to the victim to gather new information, conduct a risk assessment and safety plan;
- Link victims to services at the BKFJC and other programs as needed;
- Provide linguistically appropriate services to Spanish speaking victims when possible;
- Use Language Line Services or the New York Relay Service to communicate with victims in their appropriate language;
- Maintain victim confidentiality and effectively explain Safe Homes Project's confidentiality policies to each victim;
- Provide the NYPD with executed confidentiality agreements for the disclosure of crime victim information;
- Connect immigrant survivors of domestic violence to appropriate civil immigration services at the BKFJC;
- Attend EVE staff meetings;
- Compile accurate and comprehensive monthly data reports.
- Refer appropriate high risk cases to OCDV's citywide DVRT team

Safe Homes Project will provide the following in-kind contributions:

- Supervision of the grant-funded bilingual nonprofit victim advocate;
- Provision of multilingual educational supplies, printing and postage costs; and
- Professional staff development and training.

**Black Women's Blueprint**

Black Women's Blueprint, Inc. is a grassroots civil and human rights organization that has deep community ties in the Flatbush area of Brooklyn. Their purpose is to take action to secure social, political and economic equality in American society with an emphasis on working with women of color in crisis. They have a growing and thriving domestic violence program that focuses on working with Haitian Creole speaking clients. As an organization committed to amplifying the voices of women of African descent in all their diversity, Black Women's Blueprint is uniquely poised to work within the Caribbean diaspora community that makes up a large part of the population of the 67<sup>th</sup> precinct.

**Black Women's Blueprint's Commitment, Responsibilities, and Resources Contributions**

Black Women's Blueprint will be responsible for providing and supervising the following staff under the EVE Project:

**One Non-Profit Victim Advocates assigned to cover the 67<sup>th</sup> precinct, whose duties will be to:**

- Work collaboratively with NYPD staff in the 67<sup>th</sup> precinct and at the BKFJC to obtain contact information for victims on felony open 61 reports and do outreach to the victim to gather new information, conduct a risk assessment and safety plan;

- Link victims to services at the BKFJC and other programs as needed;
- Provide linguistically and culturally appropriate services to victims of Caribbean decent and women of color;
- Use Language Line Services or the New York Relay Service to communicate with victims in their appropriate language;
- Connect immigrant survivors of domestic violence to appropriate civil immigration services at the BKFJC;
- Maintain victim confidentiality and effectively explain Black Women's Blueprint's confidentiality policies to each victim;
- Provide the NYPD with executed confidentiality agreements for the disclosure of crime victim information;
- Attend EVE staff meetings;
- Compile accurate and comprehensive monthly data reports.

Black Women's Blueprint will provide the following in-kind contributions:

- Supervision of the grant-funded bilingual nonprofit victim advocate;
- Provision of multilingual educational supplies, printing and postage costs; and
- Professional staff development and training.

#### **Extent of Each Party's Participation in Developing the Application and MOU**

Since the opening of the BKFJC in July 2005, OCDV BKFJC administrative staff has met regularly with KCDAO's Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau and Counseling Services Unit Director to develop and refine operational protocols and policies. The BKFJC administrative staff meets monthly with representatives of all on-site partners, including KCDAO, Safe Horizon, and NYPD, and meets bi-monthly with supervisory staff from the same partner agencies. Additionally, the BKFJC administrative staff meets quarterly with off-site partner agencies. BKFJC administration, KCDAO, NYPD, and Probation collaborate on providing bi-monthly, required core training for all professionals working at the BKFJC, and regularly participate on task force meetings. During all of these meetings and training sessions, the partners regularly discuss methods of improving domestic violence victims' access to information and services. Because of the multi-disciplinary collaboration of the BKFJC, the partners have a strong, pre-existing working relationship. With the implementation of the EVE Project and the development of this grant application, those relationships have strengthened.

The undersigned organizations have participated in the development of the application including the budget documents and MOU. Meetings were held that included members of each MOU partner agency. The representatives who attended these planning meetings were as follows:

Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence:

Tracy Weber-Thomas, Deputy Commissioner/Chief of Staff

Elizabeth Dank, General Counsel

Edward Hill, Senior Advisor

Jennifer DeCarli, Executive Director, New York City Family Justice Center in Brooklyn

Alice Hawks, Director of Programs and Training

Kings County District Attorney's Office

Wanda Lucibello, Chief, Special Victims Division  
Michelle Kaminsky, First Deputy Bureau Chief, Domestic Violence Bureau  
Sarah McGrath, Director, Victim Services Unit

Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice:

Jeremy Cherson, Budget and Policy Analyst

Safe Horizon:

Maureen Curtis, Vice President, Criminal Justice Programs  
Louise Voccoli, Senior Director, Brooklyn Court Programs  
Ashley Wright, Manager, Brooklyn Criminal Court Program

Good Shepherd Services Safe Homes Project:

Catherine Hodes, Program Director

Black Women's Blueprint:

Farah Tanis, Executive Director  
Sherley Accime, Program Director

New York City Police Department:

Juanita Holmes, Inspector, Office of the Chief of Department, Domestic Violence Unit

New York City Department of Probation:

Wayne McKenzie, General Counsel

New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision

Thomas Herzog, Deputy Commissioner for Community Supervision

**Planning and Implementation Team**

OCDV will implement the EVE Project in collaboration with KCDAO, NYPD, Probation, DOCCS, Safe Horizon, Safe Homes Project and Black Women's Blueprint. The EVE Project Director will be responsible for overall project administration and oversight, and will report to the BKFJC Executive Director.

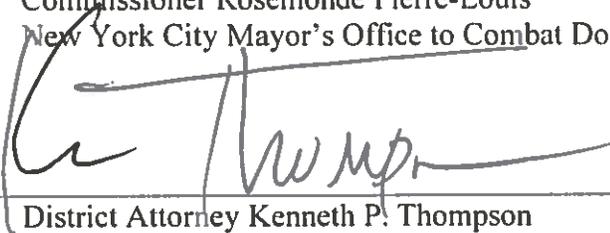
We, the undersigned representatives of the partner organizations or agencies, agree to engage in short-term and long-term planning to assure the continuing development and sustainability of the EVE Project established to increase contact with domestic violence victims at the earliest stage after a domestic violence incident has occurred. All partners will promote the safety of domestic violence victims while working to hold the offenders accountable. Each partner will participate as outlined in the agency Commitments and Responsibilities sections.

All partners agree to share information regarding the EVE Project victims with one another to the extent permitted by law, with the objective of keeping the victim safe by providing efficient and coordinated assistance. Except as required by law, no representative of any agency or organization will be asked to divulge information provided by the victim without the victim's consent. All agencies agree to respectfully consider and discuss, in the appropriate circumstances, the choices and opinions of the victim. All EVE Project partners will maintain the confidentiality of all records and files, except as required by law.

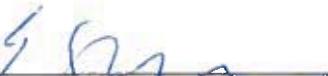
Further, we indicate approval of the proposed Project Budget.



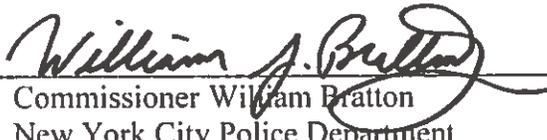
Date Commissioner Rosemonde Pierre-Louis  
New York City Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence



Date District Attorney Kenneth P. Thompson  
Office of the Kings County District Attorney



Date Director Elizabeth Glazer  
Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice



Date Commissioner William Bratton  
New York City Police Department



Date Commissioner Ana Bermúdez  
New York City Department of Probation



Date Farah Tanis  
Black Women's Blueprint



Date Sister Paulette LoMonaco, Executive Director  
Good Shepherd Services Safe Homes Project



Date Ariel Zwang, Chief Executive Officer  
Safe Horizon, Inc.

3/19/15

Date



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Acting Commissioner Anthony Annucci  
New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision